

D1
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a store for closable cassettes arranged in the housing; and
a handling device for closable cassettes arranged in the housing, wherein the store for closable cassettes and the handling device for closable cassettes are separated from the part for receiving at least two cassettes, and wherein the wafer-handling device is adapted to transfer the wafers directly between cassettes.

Sub E27

13. (Twice Amended) A method for assembling a batch of wafers in cassettes comprising the steps of:

D2

placing at least a first and a second closed cassette in a store;

employing a cassette handling device to select and move the first cassette from the store to a sorting operation, wherein the first cassette is opened and placed in active connection with a wafer handling device in a chamber;

employing a cassette handling device to select and move a second cassette from the store to a sorting operation, wherein the second cassette is opened and placed in active connection with said wafer handling device in said chamber; and

employing said wafer-handling device to sort the wafers by transferring wafers directly between the first cassette and the second cassette, wherein the chamber is sealed.

Sub E3

15. (Twice Amended) A method for assembling a batch of wafers in cassettes comprising the steps of:

D3

placing at least a first and a second closed cassette in a store;

employing a cassette handling device to select and move a first cassette from the store to a first closable opening in a sealed chamber;

opening said first closable opening together with said first cassette;

employing a cassette handling device to select and move a second cassette from the store to a second closable opening in said sealed chamber;

opening said second closable opening together with said second cassette;

employing the wafer-handling device, provided in said sealed chamber, to sort the wafers by transferring wafers directly between the first cassette and the second cassette.
